THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) and (b) Government's attention was drawn to some adverse comments about the said episode of the serial 'Bharat Ke Shaheed'. According to Doordarshan, the producers of the said serial have stated that they have projected the heroism and martyrdom of Khudiram Bose based on material collected by them from autobiographical accounts and available impressionistic narratives of that period with the best of intentions.

High level panel to study Doordarshan commercial Service

1320. SHRI KAPIL VERMA :

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up high level panel to study Doordashan Commercial Service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what percentage of T.V. telecast time is coverd by these commercial services and what has been the income year-wise in the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri S.C. Mahalik, Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting was set up to make recommendations for increasing Doordarshan's commercial revenue.

(c) According to Doordarshan about 3 per cent of total telecast time is covered by commercials. The gross revenue for the last three years is as under :

1988-89 Rs. 161·26 crores

1989-90 – Rs. 210·13 crores

1990-91 Rs. 253·85 crores

Independent production by Dibrugarh Doordarshan

1321. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Dibrugarh Centre of the Doordarshan has been made ready for independent production;

(b) if so, by when the Production work of the Centre is going to be started; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) to (c) Installation work relating to establishment of a TV Studio Centre at Dibrugarh has been completed. The Centre would be commissioned after the requisite staff for production of programmes is in position for which necessary action has already been initiated. Meanwhile playback facilities at the Centre have been commissioned with effect from 20th December 1991 enabling Dibrugarh transmitter to telecast regional programmes procured from Doordarshan Kendra, Guwahati for a limited duration.